

CONCERNING THE CORONAVIRUS / COVID-19 PANDEMIC UPDATED: DECEMBER 15, 2020

To the greatest extent possible, citizens should utilize online resources for payments, permit applications, and for any other purpose where online service is available. This advice applies to City transactions and private commercial transactions as well.

BY COURT ORDER, ALL PERSONS COMING TO COURT WILL BE SCREENED FOR FEVER, AND ASKED A SERIES OF QUESTION REGARDING TRAVEL AND ANY HEALTH SYMPTOMS. ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ENTERING CITY HALL ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR A FACIAL COVERING AS DIRECTED BY THE GOVERNOR'S EO-63.

All courts and City Hall facilities are being sanitized during closure due to a potential Covid-19 exposure.

Persons with inquiries concerning delinquent utility accounts should contact:

Utility service connections: call (276)403-5146, or

email utilitybilling@ci.martinsville.va.us

A link to an informational page on coronavirus in Virginia has been established on the City's webpage: https://www.martinsville-va.gov/

Both Governor Northam and President Trump have proclaimed state and national emergencies, and the City has declared a local emergency.

More information on the Governor's orders, restrictions on restaurant dining, how business is to be conducted, and guidance on social distancing, may be found at https://www.governor.virginia.gov/executive-actions/

The Supreme Court of Virginia has limited operation of Virginia's courts:

http://www.vacourts.gov/news/items/covid/2020 0928 scv order eleventh extending declaration of judicial emergency.pdf

The City of Martinsville has cancelled all events until further notice, which include:

- Parks & Recreation Events and Rentals, although City parks remain open to the public
- Martinsville Fire-EMS tours/events/public visitors/ smoke alarm and car seat installations
- Martinsville Police tours/events and Neighborhood Watch meetings
- No new special events will be issued and any existing permits are being suspended

While City Council meetings are occurring on their regular schedule, public comments from the floor are cancelled until further notice. Citizens desiring to comment may do so by emailing the Clerk of Council at kroberts@ci.martsinville.va.us, calling in comments to 276.403.5182, faxing comments to 276.403.5280, or mailing to P.O. Box 1112 Martinsville, VA 24112, ATTN: COMMENTS. Comments must be received by noon of the day preceding any meeting.

Persons still needing to make direct payments or applications at City Hall may use the following methods:

All tax and billing payments: please use online payments,

drive-thru window, or dropbox

Commissioner of Revenue: call 276.403.5131

Voter registration: call 276.403.5122

Utility service connections: call (276)403-5146, or

email <u>utilitybilling@ci.martinsville.va.us</u>

Building permits: call (276) 403-5173

Building inspection requests: call (276) 403-5365

ALL OTHER INQUIRIES: call (276) 403-5180 & use # directory

CITY WEBSITE: https://www.martinsville-va.gov/

All essential City services: Police, Fire and EMS protection, trash collection, and utility services remain in operation but are not open to the public.

Local food banks remain open. If a person is in need for food they can text the word "Food" or "Comida" to 877877. For local charitable resources, citizens in need may call 1-866-211-9966 and provide their zip code, to be given a list of local agencies to provide assistance. The United Way has a COVID-19 Community Economic Relief Fund, and will help with bills, rent and food.

DO NOT CALL FOR 911 FOR NON-EMERGENCY PURPOSES. Contact your primary care provider or use available telemedicine resources as the first line of defense. If presenting COVID-19-like symptoms (fever, cough shortness of breath), calling 911 may result in a recommendation for self-care at home.

REMINDER: <u>Symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19)</u> can include fever, cough, shortness of breath (symptoms may appear 2- 14 days after exposure.) If you are experiencing life-threatening symptoms or are having an emergency, please call 9-1-1 and answer all questions as prompted. For non-emergency questions concerning Coronavirus, contact the Health Department at (276) 638-2311.